



DWFP-CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN I

Characteristics of Work

This is *entry-level* technical work in the fields of wildlife, fisheries, ecology and natural resources conservation in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. Characteristic duties include responsibility for routine investigation, collection, preparation and maintenance of field and laboratory biological and aquatic data and reference collections; implementation of development, management and restoration projects related to resource conservation, hatchery or aquaria programs. Work is performed under the close supervision of a biologist or an administrative or technical superior and is subject to frequent inspection. Incumbents at the entry level receive specific instructions and assignments and may act as project technical assistants or leadworkers in the performance of related duties.

Examples of Work

Examples of work performed in this classification include, but are not limited to, the following:

Performs routine procedures in the identification, collection and preparation of aquatic and biological data; conducts basic field or laboratory research using standardized methods; records data and assists in preparation of reports, graphs, charts and tables of results and technical observations.

Performs analyses of soil, water and vegetative samples; performs routine laboratory analysis of specimens; assists in conducting examinations and measurements of various species.

Participates in field and laboratory research or management programs designed to control diseases, parasites and undesirable aquatic plants, fish, non-game or other species.

Participates in banding, tagging, counting, trapping, netting, shocking and sampling activities; identifying, sorting, grading, weighing and measuring species; records information to support specific research or management projects.

Assists in performing routine technical activities related to wildlife management areas, public waters, pond/lake management and public fishing areas; checks water quality and water levels; participates in investigations of fish kills, reported crop and resource damage and complaints of nuisance animals and predators.

Participates in projects to develop, restore and maintain terrestrial and aquatic habitat; planting or construction of natural and artificial habitat enhancements and structures; marks habitat boundaries and right-of-ways.

Provides routine technical assistance to pond owners, landowners and the general public in stocking ponds, pond management, planting food crops/cover, habitat improvement and resource management.

Assists in propagating, natural and artificial spawning, hatching, feeding and raising fish and aquatic species.

Assists in draining ponds and pond and dike repair/maintenance; fertilization of ponds and lakes; administering agricultural and aquatic chemical treatments to improve habitat conditions and control weeds and vegetation.

Participates in the harvest, transport and distribution of hatchery-raised fish; stocking (re-stocking) ponds, lakes, streams and other public waters with native or introduced fish species; relocation or release projects.

Participates in conducting stream, creel, browse, mast, prey and forage surveys/studies; inventories; population censuses.

Performs custodial and maintenance activities of physical facilities and structures, aquaria, mechanical and water systems and specialized equipment.

Participates in demonstrations, educational and informational programs related to hatchery or aquaria operations.

Completes various reports related to time, attendance and activities; vehicle usage, expenses and repairs; hatchery production records; special field and laboratory research and management project reporting.

Maintains property inventory of assigned field and facility equipment.

Operates and maintains a variety of equipment, including but not limited to: motorized vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, winches, boats, motors, audio-visual equipment, two-way radio and communications equipment, nets, traps, sampling and electrofishing gear, laboratory and field testing equipment.

Related or similar duties are performed as required or assigned.

Essential Functions

These essential functions include, but are not limited to, the following. Additional essential functions may be identified and included by the hiring agency.

1. Performs routine technical procedures in the identification, collection and preparation of aquatic and biological data.
2. Participates in the development, management and restoration of projects related to resource conservation, hatchery or aquaria programs.

Minimum Qualifications

These minimum qualifications have been agreed upon by Subject Matter Experts (SME's) in this job class and are based upon a job analysis and the essential functions. However, if a candidate believes he/she is qualified for the job although he/she does not have the minimum qualifications set forth below, he/she may request special consideration through substitution of related education and experience, demonstrating the ability to perform the essential functions of the position. Any request to substitute related education or experience for minimal qualifications must be addressed to the State Personnel Board in writing, identifying the related education and experience which demonstrates the candidate's ability to perform all essential functions of the position.

Physical Requirements: These physical requirements are not exhaustive, and additional job-related physical requirements may be added to these by individual agencies on an as-needed basis. Corrective devices may be used to meet physical requirements.

Heavy Work: May frequently exert force equivalent to lifting up to approximately 50 pounds and/or occasionally exert force equivalent to lifting up to approximately 100 pounds.

Vision: Requires the ability to perceive the nature of objects by the eye.

Near Acuity: Clarity of vision at 20 inches or less.

Midrange: Clarity of vision at distances of more than 20 inches and less than 20 feet.

Far Acuity: Clarity of vision at 20 feet or more.

Field of Vision: Ability to observe an area up or down, left or right while eyes are fixed on a given point.

Depth Perception: Three-dimensional vision. Ability to judge distance and space relationships so as to see objects where and as they actually are.

Accommodation: Ability to adjust focus.

Color Vision: Ability to identify colors.

Motor Coordination: While performing the duties of this job, the incumbent is frequently required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle or feel objects, tools or controls; stoop, kneel, crouch or bend; and reach with hands and arms. The incumbent is occasionally required to sit and climb or balance.

Speaking/Hearing: Ability to give and receive information through speaking and listening skills.

Education/Experience Requirements:

An Associate's Degree from an accredited two-year college.

AND

One (1) year of work experience related to the above-described duties.

OR

Graduation from a standard four-year high school or equivalent (GED).

AND

Three (3) years of work experience related to the above-described duties.

Substitution Statement

Related education and related experience may be substituted on an equal basis.

Note: Must possess a valid MS Driver's License, or a valid Driver's License from a contiguous state.

Interview Requirements

Any candidate who is called to an agency for an interview must notify the interviewing agency in writing of any reasonable accommodation needed prior to the date of the interview.